Subject No. 49.

Compulsory Registration of births and deaths.

Summary of discussion.—The existing arrangements for the registration of births and deaths are found to be defective, and all attempts hitherto made to secure accuracy of information on these subjects have proved futile. The schedules prescribed and kept in this behalf in Shimoga, for example, have been found to contain numerous discrepancies almost destroying their probative character and rendering the information therein contained, useless. An Act for the compulsory registration of births and deaths is therefore necessary and it would aid the working of the Infant Marriage Prevention Act by affording evidence of correct dates of births. Mr. Sadasiva Rao (Pleader and Landholder and R. M. from Dodballapur Municipality) and Mr. Narasimmaiengar (Pleader and R. M. from Nagar Sabha) deprecated an addition to the penal laws of the country in the manner suggested. The duty of registering these events should continue to devolve on Government Officials and the existing system should be improved and correct registration facilitated.

Dewan's reply.—Compulsory registration would involve a certain amount of interference with public freedom, and it is doubtful that there would be corresponding advantage. Some provision in this behalf, however, may be made in the Municipal Regulation now under consideration and a trial first made in Municipalities.

Subject No. 50.

District Committees for Muzrai Institutions.

Summary of discussion.—Great abuses exist at present in the management of Muzrai (*i. e.*, religious and charitable) Institutions. A very large number of these possess Government endowments in land or cash, but it is only a small proportion of these that are under the supervision of the Muzrai Department, and of them again, it is only a few that the Muzrai Superintendent can regularly and frequently inspect. It will be a great boon, therefore, to take under Muzrai supervision all institutions for which there is any Government grant, and to appoint a separate committee for each District similar to the Local Fund Boards to see that the institutions are worked and maintained in good order and the intentions of the grants are fulfilled. Where these intentions are not fulfilled, the grants should not be resumed but transferred to other managers for better management.

Dewan's reply.—By the appointment of Dharmadarsis in many places and otherwise, we are doing what we can. The rule is to resume the Inams when their purposes are not fulfilled, and there will be no objection to entrust them for management to better hands if possible. (See also subject No. 56.)

Subject No. 51.

Remuneration of Totis and Talaris.

Summary of discussion.—The subject of remuneration of Totis and Talaris by Raiyats' Miras was discussed by some Representatives from Malnad and Maidan Districts

from different points of view, and different opinions were advanced, of which the following is an abstract :—

(1) As there is considerable difficulty in the prescribed "Aya" being collected, it is better to resume the Inam lands attached to these offices and pay them in cash, a village service cess being collected as in British India (Representatives from Mulbagal, Bagepalli, Sorab and Nagar Taluks).

(2) That raiyats should pay "Aya" to them is unjust as they do not serve the raiyats. It is a relic of the obsolete Batayi system (Representatives from Tumkur Taluk).

(3) The rates prescribed for the Nundydroog Division are excessive (Representatives from the Maddagiri Taluk).

(4) Rates should be prescribed for the Chitaldroog District where none are prescribed by Government (Representatives from Chitaldroog Taluk).

(5) Remuneration should be ordered and rates fixed and enforced in the Kadur and Shimoga Districts where it is now dependent on the caprice of raiyats in some places or on the generosity of the Patel (Representatives form Tarikere, Shimoga and Shikarpur Taluks).

Dewan's reply.—The subject is not new. But it is a difficult one and takes time for settlement. For the purposes of a final settlement, data are being collected and the subject is under consideration. The rates in the Nundydroog Division were tentatively fixed by order of the late Chief Commissioner. The great point is to adhere to *mamul*, and for this purpose to ascertain what the *mamul* has been in each place, to record it for strict observance, and to enforce it. The record is being made.

Subject No. 52.

Extension of the State Life Insurance Scheme to the general public.

Summary of discussion.—The State Life Insurance Scheme is a wise measure of great benefit to State servants to whom alone it is now confined. Its usefulness should be extended by applying it to all the subjects of His Highness. Being a Government institution, it enjoys public confidence, and all classes will freely avail themselves of it with benefit to themselves and profit to the State. The public have now to resort to private Insurance Companies out of the country. The money that is thus going out of the country would remain and circulate in the country itself.

Dewan's reply.—Government undertaking such a general Scheme is impracticable at present.

Subject No. 53.

Industrial Schools, Model Farms, Agricultural instruction.

Summary of discussion.—The usual suggestions that Industrial Schools should be established at Head-quarters of Districts, that Agricultural Model Farms should be established at the Head-quarters of Districts, that Agricultural instruc-